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indications of the continental origin of a given formation. Applying the results of his studies to specific portions of the geological column, the author concludes that certain important formations, heretofore generally referred to a marine origin, are most probably continental deposits.

Professor Barrell's paper is an important contribution to a series of studies which are resulting in a very manifest movement away from the former tendency to regard all sediments as marine unless definitely proved of some other origin, toward a fuller recognition of the importance of continental sedimentation, and a more open attitude of mind to such an alternative interpretation.

D. W. J.

Observations in South Africa.—Professor W. M. Davis presents¹ a variety of geological and geographical observations made during his visit to the Colonies of South Africa in the summer of 1905. After a brief introduction, in which the going and return journeys are sketched, the physiographic provinces of South Africa are outlined, and the problems to be considered briefly stated. The next twenty pages are mainly concerned with a study of the Cape Colony ranges considered with special regard to their resemblance to the Allegheny mountains of our own country, both groups belonging to the class of much dissected folded mountains. The famous Dwyka glacial formation of Permian age is next discussed in some detail, some twenty pages dealing with the character of the evidence upon which reference to a glacial origin is based, the topography of South Africa during Dwyka time, and the possible causes of the Dwyka glacial period. The third portion of the paper deals with the peneplain of the Veld or interior highland, and the conditions of its origin, the evidence being weighed with a desire to discriminate if possible between normal peneplanation as one alternative, and arid leveling without baseleveling as the other. Other problems of interest, such as the origin of the zig-zag gorge below the Victoria falls of the Zambesi, and the probable greater extent of South Africa in former times, are considered. Eight plates and a number of drawings serve to illustrate the paper.

D. W. J.

Geology of the Big Horn Mountains.²—The results of five seasons' field work in the Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming and Montana

¹ Bulletin Geol. Society of America, **17**, pp. 377–450, 1906.

² U. S. Geological Survey, Professional Paper No. 51, 1906, 128 pp.

are embodied in this splendidly illustrated report by Mr. N. H. Darton. After a preliminary consideration of the geography of the region, an extended and detailed account of the various types of rocks represented in the range is given. The glacial geology is discussed by Professor R. D. Salisbury on the basis of work done by several assistants. The results of glacial erosion are very pronounced, splendid examples of cirques, U-shaped valleys, and glacial lakes being found, the amount of valley-deepening due to glacial scour being placed as high as 700 feet or possibly more in cases. The structure of the range is next considered, the uplift being in the nature of a great anticline with a somewhat prominent local dome toward the southern end, while minor flexures and faults occur. The general geologic history of the region is traced, and in conclusion the mineral resources, water supply and timber are described. Some years ago Mr. F. E. Matthes prepared an unusually valuable contour map of the central portion of the range and discussed the feature due to glacial sculpture. Mr. Darton's report gives a comprehensive account of the general geology, adding much to our knowledge of this interesting region.

D. W. J.

A Glacial Lake in Tibet.—Mr. Huntington has spent several seasons in the study of geological and geographical features in central Asia, and presents in this paper¹ an account of a lake which seems to owe its origin to glacial erosion, and which closely resembles the famous valley lakes of Switzerland. According to previous observers the lake has been formed by the damming of an old outlet by fans spread out across the valley by tributary streams; but Mr. Huntington presents pretty clear evidence that the basin is terminated by a rock lip rising well above the present level of the lake, and of course much farther above the lake bottom, the lake being 142 feet deep according to F. Drew. There seems to be no evidence of warping or faulting, while the evidence of strong glaciation is abundant. The features observed would seem to indicate a true rock basin of appreciable depth scoured out by the valley glacier. Fluctuations of climate are recorded by a number of elevated beaches marking oscillations of lake level. The paper is illustrated with a map and numerous drawings and photographs.

D. W. J.

¹ Pangong: A Glacial Lake in the Tibetan Plateau. By Ellsworth Huntington. *Journal of Geology*, Vol. 14, 599-617, 1906.